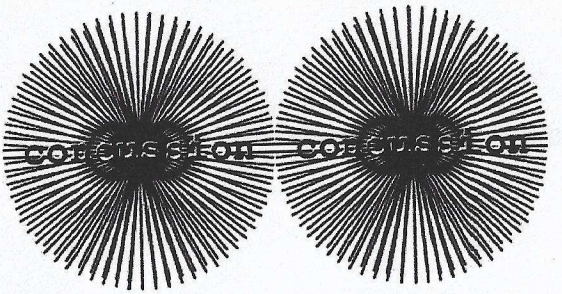



# Concussion ReadMe

## 14-17 April 2006
## Crowne Plaza Hotel, Glasgow

This ReadMe Guide contains **essential information** to help you enjoy your convention. The answers to most of your questions should be found here. If you lose it, replacements are available for £1 while stocks last.

**Problems**
If you have any problems at the con, you could ask the hotel (for hotel issues), convention Ops, or a member of the con committee. Committee members will be wearing distinctive black & white Concussion rosettes; the Duty Convention Manager will have a DCM badge attached to their rosette.

**Badges**
Please wear your badge at all times in the convention areas, and be prepared to show it when asked, to gain access to certain con areas. Replacement badges are available for a charge of £1. Concussion reserves the right not to replace lost badges.

**Volunteer**
This convention relies on volunteers, from the con chair to the gophers to the authors on the programme! If you would like to take part, please come to Ops. It can be fun and a way to experience new parts of a convention. Volunteers are rewarded with Groats.

**Emergencies**
The hotel is your best contact in an emergency, for first aid or phone numbers for hospitals etc. But please try not to have any!

**Newsletter**
A regular newsletter will be distributed around the con, with information about programme changes etc and any additional news. Contributions are welcome.

**Smoking**
There will be no smoking at Concussion. Scotland has laws in force banning smoking in enclosed public spaces. This means that you may only smoke in designated smoking bedrooms, or outside the hotel.

## Activities

**Registration**
This is in the Foyer outside the Argyll rooms, and will be open as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Fri & Saturday | 10:00-18:00 |
| Sunday | 10:00-16:00 |
| Monday | 10:00-12:00 |

**Dealers Room**
This is in the Castle Suite, and will be open as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Friday | 13:00-18:00 |
| Sat & Sunday | 10:00-18:00 |
| Monday | 10:00-13:00 |

No food or drink may be brought into the Dealer room.
There will be an Early Access session on Saturday and Monday at 09:15, for members with mobility difficulties to shop without crowds.

**Art Show**
This is in the Island suite (Shuna/Barra/Jura), and will be open as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Friday | 10:00-18:00, 20:00-21:30 Official Opening event. |
| Saturday | 10:00-18:00 |
| Sunday | 10:00-11:00 then closed for auction. So get in early! |

There may be no food, drink, or photography in the Art Show.

**Chaos Workshops**
An opportunity to work on a costume or robot you have brought, or make one from scratch. Chaos will be open from noon on Friday to accept donations; from 10:00 – 18:00 on Saturday and Sunday (longer if there is demand and staff), and will be closed on Monday for clear up.

**Games**
Various board, card, and role-playing games. Enquire within to join in the fun.

**Filk**
The Boardroom is available in the evenings for the folk music of fandom. The term *filk* was a typo (in the days before spell-checkers), which stuck.

**Masquerade**
Please sign up in advance at Registration or in the Chaos room; this enables us to plan the event as well as possible.

**Crèche**
A crèche will be open on Saturday and Sunday between 09:30 and 17:30. Ask at Ops for more information. There is a charge for this service.

## Voting

**BSFA Awards**
Attending members of the Eastercon are eligible to vote for the BSFA awards for the Best Novel, Short Fiction, and Artwork of 2005. Ballot forms (listing the nominees) are in your membership pack or available from the Registration desk. Votes are to be cast by 6pm on Saturday in the box at Registration; the Awards will be presented at 9pm.

**Doc Weir Award**
For someone who works tirelessly for fandom, with no expectation of reward. The Souvenir Book has more information. Ballot forms are in your membership pack or available from the Registration desk. Votes are to be cast by 6pm on Saturday in the box at Registration; the Awards will be presented at 9pm.

**Hall Costume**
Saturday is Hall Costume Day; from 10:00 – 21:00 you are invited to wander the convention dressed in costume. There should be three Hall Costume Appreciation Vouchers in your membership pack – give one or more to the person(s) whose costume you most admire.
The rules for costumes are i) they cannot be entered in this year's Masquerade, ii) they must obey the Weapons Policy. Costumers should hand in any tokens they are given to Ops by 11:00 on Sunday, for counting.

**Phlosque**
The Phlosque Award is a popular vote for "fantasy art with significance". On Friday and Saturday, visitors to the Art Show can pick up stickers to place by (*not on*) the piece they deem most Phlosque. The esteemed Phlosque committee then deliberate to determine a deserving winner. You are referred to the Souvenir Book for an excellent introduction (with pictures!) to the skills of Phlosque recognition.

## Con-duct

**Mobile Phones/bleepy devices**
I see you have the machine that goes bing! That's very nice for you, but could you please switch it off during programme items? This should not need saying, but please do not disturb panels by talking loudly (to your bleepy device or with your neighbour).

**Shared Space**
Please note that the Crowne Plaza main bar is a public space, and as such there may be people there who are not members of the convention.

## Photography

Please be considerate when using flash photography (even red eye reduction mode can trigger migraines and epilepsy), and respect fans who do not wish to be photographed. There is to be no flashing at the Masquerade.

## Weapons Policy

**No weapons**: no guns, play guns, gun replicas, swords, knives, lasers, model lasers, or anything that could be perceived as a weapon by the public, will be permitted. The committee has the final say as to what constitutes a weapon. Unfortunately, we must reserve the right to revoke the membership of anyone who refuses to comply with this policy. The only exception is for registered participants in the Masquerade, who may wear a weapon, excepting guns and operational lasers, from one-half hour before to one-half hour after the Masquerade. All Masquerade weapons must be affixed to the costume. Participants may use (draw, brandish, gesticulate with or otherwise waggle about) weapons as part of their performance onstage, but at no other time. Participants in the Costumers Workshop may also wear weapons, with the same restrictions, while in the workshop.

- Swords: OK for a Masquerade costume as long as it is a blunt (preferably non-metal) replica.
- Airsoft Weapons: No. UK law is strict on anything that looks like a gun.

Summary:

If carrying it in the High Street would get an armed response unit called out, It's A Weapon.

If you would not wish us to whack you over the head with it, It's A Weapon.

## Access

Concussion is registered with Electrical Eggs UK and endeavours to be an access-friendly event. Here are some ways in which you can help:

- Consideration should be given to anyone moving about with assistance: wheelchair, walking aid, Service Animal, sighted guide/helper or pushchairs – especially in crowded areas where manoeuvring may be difficult.
- All passageways should be clear of bags, boxes & clutter.
- Wheelchair users need room to move, especially to turn or to park!
- Give right of way in the lifts to anyone walking with assistance.
- Front Row Seating will be allocated for fans with sensory impairment, so please avoid walking in front of them during programme items.
- Please note and respect Electrical Eggs signage at the convention.

Treat each person with the respect & dignity you would hope to be shown.

For questions about access, please ask at Registration.

# Food & Drink

**Eating In the Crowne Plaza**

**Breakfast** is served:

| | |
|---|---|
| Monday to Friday | 06:00 – 09:30 |
| Saturday & Sunday | 07:00 – 12:00 |

**Cold food** (baguettes etc.) are available:

| | |
|---|---|
| Friday to Sunday | 11:00 – 23:00 |
| Monday | 11:00 – 18:00 |

**Hot food**: a £5 convention quick food menu will be served in the Castle foyer. There will be one meat and one vegetarian option (different each sitting).

| | |
|---|---|
| Friday to Sunday | 11:30 – 13:30, 17:00 – 19:00 |
| Monday | 11:30 – 13:30 |

**Late food**: hot rolls with bacon, sausage, or potato scone for £2.

| | |
|---|---|
| Friday to Sunday | 23:00 – 01:00 |

The hotel catering outlets will be open as usual: No. 1 Dockside (carvery), the Mariner restaurant (finer dining); and the Quarterdeck Bar (bar snacks).
We regret that under current Health & Safety regulations, the hotel is unable to serve Crottled Greeps.

**Eating Out in Glasgow**

There should be an *Eat Out in Glasgow* booklet in your membership pack, which goes into much more detail than we could hope to in the ReadMe. It can be wise to book in advance, especially if you have a large party.

**Takeaways**

As is normal hotel policy, you are not permitted to bring in food or drink from outside. The hotel is in the business of selling food and drink for profit, and the convention committee will support them in this. We likes pirates, but we hates smugglers! If you want to bring drinks in for a party, this must be cleared with the hotel and there will be a corkage charge.

**Drink**

The con bar in the Argyll foyer will be open from 11am to 2am, unless there is the unlikely event that all the fans have gone to bed early and no one needs any drinks. It may close at 6pm on Monday leaving us with just the main bar, or we may arrange an extension.

The Real Ale bar is provisioned by the fine Kelburn Brewing Company.

**The Concussion Programme**

Please note that the programme is subject to change; we will list updates in the convention newsletter and post updated schedules as available.

**Video Programme:** As well as a number of films being shown as part of the main programme, there will also be a video stream in the Orkney Room in the mornings (children's programming) and the evenings. Please see the separate Video Read Me for details.

**Author Events**: See notes at the end of this programme for details of the mass signing session on Friday, as well as readings and kaffeeklatsches by authors. Readings will take place in Boardroom and Orkney; see programme updates as mentioned above for kaffeeklatsches.

**Craft Workshops**: We are running a number of craft workshops in the Staffa Room (adjacent to the Art Show) on Saturday and Sunday – see notes at the end of this programme.

Note: A listing for 'Argyll 12' indicates Argyll 1 and 2 merged together for larger items.

| FRIDAY | 1330-1430 | 1500-1530 |
|---|---|---|
| Argyll 1 | How do New Things Happen? | |
| Argyll 2 | The Creative Possibilities of the Fanzine | |
| Argyll 3 | Costume Construction | |
| Boardroom | | |
| Notes | | |

| FRIDAY | 1530-1700 | 1700-1800 | 1800-1900 | 1900-2000 | 2000-2130 | 2130-2300 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Argyll 1 | Guest of Honour – Elizabeth Hand | "There ain't no such thing as Free Speech" | War of the Wells | Making GAMERz (group talk – to 1945) | GAMERz (film, starts 1945) | Captain Tartan: The Director's Cut |
| Argyll 2 | | Panel to Screen | To Infinity and Beyond? | Desert Island Geeks | Mass Signing Session | Tales from the Green Room |
| Argyll 3 | | Critical Movements | The Why and What For of Art Prizes | Location, Location, Location | SMOFF: Make a Fan Fund (2100: Auction Setup) | Fan Fund Auction |
| Boardroom | | Readings | (Quiz Setup) | LotR and Middle Earth Quiz | FILK | |
| Notes | | Kaffeeklatsches | Book Launch Argyll Mezz – Elastic Press & Pendragon | | Art Show Official Opening | |

*Fri, 1330-1430, Argyll 1*
**How Do New Things Happen?**
What is the process by which gadgets get into the real world?
*Peter Weston (M), Dave O'Neill, Eddie Cochrane, Phil Bradley*

*Fri, 1330-1430, Argyll 2*
**The Creative Possibilities of the Fanzine**
Fanzines have come a long way since being mimeoed onto Twiltone. What further creative prospects are there?
*Niall Harrison, Pete Young (M), Yvonne Rowse*

*Fri, 1330-1430, Argyll 3*
**Costume Construction**
So, you have a wonderful idea for a costume. How do you implement it?
*Judi Hodgkin, Teddy, SMS*

*Fri, 1500-1530, Argyll 123*
**Opening Ceremony**
Meet the Guests and Committee

*Fri, 1530-1700, Argyll 12*
**Guest of Honour - Elizabeth Hand**
Elizabeth Hand interviewed by Graham Sleight.

*Fri, 1700-1800, Argyll 1*
**"There ain't no such thing as Free Speech. And a good thing too!"**
Just where should SF writers avoid going, and what are the consequences when they go there anyway?
*Farah Mendlesohn (M), John Jarrold, Lisa Tuttle, Peter Harrow*

*Fri, 1700-1800, Argyll 2*
**Panel to Screen**
How faithful can a film adaptation of a comic be? What needs to change; what must be kept?
*Susan Booth (M), Ian Snell, Chris Teague, Dan Abnett*

*Fri, 1700-1800, Argyll 3*
**Critical Movements**
Can critical movements survive the Singularity?
*Geoff Ryman, Graham Sleight, Paul Kincaid (M), Ian McDonald*

*Fri, 1800-1900, Argyll 1*
**War of the Wells**
The Defence Secretary has predicted that the UK will soon be intervening in resource conflicts. How soon will wars over oil become wars over water?
*Simon Bradshaw (M), Nigel Furlong, Mark Robson, Jon Courtenay Grimwood, Mike Cobley*

*Fri, 1800-1900, Argyll 2*
**To Infinity and Beyond?**
How does a writer get across a sense of scale? Do you always want to?
*Stephen Baxter, Jack Deighton (M), Huw Walters*

*Fri, 1800-1900, Argyll 3*
**The Why and What For of Art Prizes**
Awards for art - what is it we're trying to recognize, why the split between 'serious' and 'whimsical' art awards?
*SMS, Judi Hodgkin (M), Pete Young, Brian Froud*

*Fri, 1800-1900, Mezzanine*
**Elastic Press / Pendragon Press Launch Party**

*Fri, 1900-1945, Argyll 1*
***Making GAMERz***
The making of the recent Scottish gaming-themed film.

*Fri, 1900-2000, Argyll 2*
**Desert Island Geeks**
Which gadget would you want to be marooned with on a desert island?
*Charlie Stross, Mike Scott, Nojay (M), Zara Baxter, Clare Goodall*

*Fri, 1900-2000, Argyll 3*
**Location, Location, Location**
Why do some writers have such a strong sense of place?
*Ian McDonald (M), Liz Hand, Geoff Ryman, Ken MacLeod*

*Fri, 1900-2000, Boardroom*
**Lord of the Rings and Middle Earth Quiz**
A Tolkien-themed quiz, with special musical support from the Quodlibet vocal quartet.

*Fri, 1945-2130, Argyll 1*
**GAMERz Showing**
A feature presentation of Scottish film GAMERz.

*Fri, 2000-2100, Argyll 3*
**SMOFF: Make a Fan Fund**
The League of Fan Funds runs the very first Fan Race to take place entirely within one convention!
*Flick, Claire Brialey*

*Fri, 2000-2130, Argyll 2*
**Signing Session**
Look for details at the convention of the authors taking part in this mass signing event.

*Fri, 2000-2130, Island*
**Art Show Official Opening**
Join us for a special opening of the Art Show.

*Fri, 2130-2300, Argyll 1*
**Tartan - The Director's Cut**
Mark Slater leads a Director and Cast Commentary of David Wake's Captain Tartan Saves The World Again.
*Mark Slater (M), David Wake, Dawn Abigail, Cal, SMS, Eira, James Steel, Kathy Westhead*

*Fri, 2130-2300, Argyll 2*
**Tales from the Green Room**
The Legends and Lore of Running Conventions.
*Ian Sorensen, John Dallman, Peter Weston, Martin Easterbrook (M)*

*Fri, 2130-2300, Argyll 3*
**Fan Fund Auction**
The League of Fan Funds auction.
*Claire Brialey*

| SATURDAY | 0900-1000 | 1000-1100 | 1100-1200 | 1200-1300 | 1300-1400 | 1400-1530 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Argyll 1 | | Reading as a Writer | Special Guest<br><br>Johanna Sinisalo | The Work of Octavia Butler | Fandom - A Safe Space? | Guest of Honour<br><br>M John Harrison |
| Argyll 2 | | Who's Telling the Story? The Voice of Historical Fantasy | How Much Hangs on the Chads? | Aesthetics and Ethics in Children's Literature | Singularity and the Greens | |
| Argyll 3 | | The New Calvinism | The Enduring Call of Cthulhu | What should a good museum look like? | Not The Clarke Award | |
| Boardroom | Flash Fiction Workshop 1 | Fannish Theatre | Growing up in the virtual village | True Names and Other Fannish Obsessions | Is the centre of SF at its margins? | |
| Notes | | | | | Readings (Orkney)<br><br>Kaffeeklatsches | |

| SATURDAY | 1530-1700 | 1700-1800 | 1800-1900 | 1900-2000 | 2000-2130 | 2130-2300 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Argyll 1 | Hay Lecture | Orbital Cleavage | Who +1 - is British TV SF undergoing a renaissance? | DOCTOR WHO | THE CALL OF CTHULHU<br>2100: AWARD CEREMONY | TAFF Party (Supported by Interaction) |
| Argyll 2 | Special Guests<br>Dan Abnett and Marc Gascoigne | Twelve Monkeys and a Chicken | "All Quest Fantasies are basically Pilgrim's Progress rewritten" | | Defining Sentience (to 2100) | Raagnagrok |
| Argyll 3 | When One Is Not Enough | Sword Blades and Poppy Seeds | Writing the Taboo | | It's Not Easy Being Green (to 2100) | Saturday Night Quiz Show |
| Boardroom | | Readings | FILK | FILK | FILK | |
| Notes | | Readings (Orkney)<br>Kaffeeklatsches | | | | 2200: Blake's Seven Wobblevision! |

*Sat, 0900-1000, Boardroom*
**Flash Fiction Workshop 1**
Session 1: We pick a topic, and get writing! Please bring plenty of paper, pens, and your brain.
*Kate Bodley*

*Sat, 1000-1100, Argyll 1*
**Reading as a Writer**
A panel with M John Harrison
*M John Harrison, Jon Courtenay Grimwood, Graham Sleight, Farah Mendlesohn (M)*

*Sat, 1000-1100, Argyll 2*
**Who's Telling the Story? The Voice of Historical Fantasy**
Can you write from an authentically historical point of view? Is it possible to avoid the sensibilities of the present - and is it really necessary to do so? And which historical authors best inspire writers?
*Deborah Miller, Susanna Clarke, Kari, Tony Keen (M), Liz Wein*

*Sat, 1000-1100, Argyll 3*
**The New Calvinism: How Hardwired is the Soul?**
Does posthumanism mean uploaded salvation for the lucky few?
*Richard Morgan (M), Mike Gallagher, Liz Sourbut, Hannu Rajaniemi, Huw Walters*

*Sat, 1000-1100, Boardroom*
**Fannish Theatre**
Fannish theatrical productions have a long and distinguished history. Our panel discuss the highlights and pitfalls of Convention Dramatics.
*Kate Solomon, Dave Wake (M), Ian Sorensen, Phil Raines*

*Sat, 1100-1200, Argyll 1*
**Special Guest - Johanna Sinisalo**
Interview by Saija Silvennoinen

*Sat, 1100-1200, Argyll 2*
**How Much Hangs on the Chads?**
What Alternate History will we be writing about the timeline where Gore got elected?
*Jon Courtenay Grimwood, Paul Kincaid (M), Chaz Brenchley, Kate Solomon*

*Sat, 1100-1200, Argyll 3*
**The Enduring Call of Cthulhu**
Nearly seventy years after HP Lovecraft died, why is Lovecraftiana so popular?
*Charlie Stross, Freda Warrington, Dave Clements (M)*

*Sat, 1100-1200, Boardroom*
**Growing Up in the Virtual Village**
From LiveJournal to World of Warcraft and instant message groups, teenagers and pre-teens are growing up online in their own groups which are no longer based on mere geography. Do these groups introduce them to more diversity, or will their very self-selecting nature lead only to reinforcement of existing attitudes?

*Liz Batty, Renee Sieber, Anna Zettervall, Ruth O'Reilly, Sparks (M)*

*Sat, 1200-1300, Argyll 1*
**The Work of Octavia Butler**
The writing of Octavia Butler, who died earlier this year.
*Edward James, Justina Robson*

*Sat, 1200-1300, Argyll 2*
**Aesthetics and Ethics in Children's Literature**
"A little bit of metaphor, a Sunday school lesson or two, and lots of misery". Does children's fantasy have to be like this?
*Farah Mendlesohn, Amanda Hemingway, Liz Wein (M), Frances Hardinge, John Jarrold*

*Sat, 1200-1300, Argyll 3*
**What Should A Good Museum Look Like?**
Museums are where many fans had their interest in science or history sparked. Can they engage today's youth without dumbing down into 'info-tainment'?
*Tony Keen, Alex Davis, Ken MacLeod*

*Sat, 1200-1300, Boardroom*
**True Names and Other Fannish Obsessions**
Real Names, Badge Names, LJ Names: who are you today, Darth Sidious or Chancellor Palpatine?
*Flick, Sparks, Colin Harris (M), Renee Sieber, Tanya Brown*

*Sat, 1300-1400, Argyll 1*
**Fandom - A Safe Space?**
What is a 'safe space' and is fandom one? How can fans and conventions reconcile the desire to express yourself freely and the desire to be in a welcoming and friendly environment?
*Simon Bradshaw (M), Kari, Vince Docherty, Cuddles*

*Sat, 1300-1400, Argyll 2*
**The Singularity: End of the Greens?**
If it doesn't kill SF, will it kill environmentalism? Who cares about the Greenland ice cap melting if there's a prospect that posthuman intelligences will recycle the planet into nanotech?
*Neil Williamson, Tony Ballantyne, Hannu Rajaniemi (M), Jon Courtenay Grimwood, Judith Proctor*

*Sat, 1300-1400, Argyll 3*
**Not The Clarke Award**
Our panel give their own verdicts on the 2005 Clarke shortlist.
*Claire Brialey, Tony Cullen, Andy Sawyer, Edward James*

*Sat, 1300-1400, Boardroom*
**Is the Centre of Science Fiction at its Margins?**
How have women's, queer, black voices reshaped our ideas of what science fiction is?
*Geoff Ryman, Hal Duncan, Elizabeth Bear, Zara Baxter (M), Johanna Sinisalo*

*Sat, 1400-1530, Argyll 12*
**Guest of Honour - M John Harrison**
Elizabeth Hand interviews M John Harrison.

*Sat, 1530-1700, Argyll 1*
**George Hay Memorial Lecture**
Alice Jenkins of Glasgow University talks on the interaction of science and literature in the Victorian age.

*Sat, 1530-1700, Argyll 2*
**Special Guests - Dan Abnett and Marc Gascoigne**
Dan Abnett and Marc Gascoigne interview each other in our Special Guest Double Presentation.

*Sat, 1530-1700, Argyll 3*
**When One Is Not Enough**
What influences a writer to use multiple viewpoints in a novel rather than just looking through one set of eyes? How well does the limited viewpoint work in this postmodernist age?
*Ian McDonald, Justina Robson, Colin Greenland, Amanda Hemingway (M), Paul Barnett*

*Sat, 1700-1800, Argyll 1*
**Orbital Cleavage, or Just How Do They Do That?**
"You Canna Break the Laws of Physics" - unless, it seems, you're designing underwear for sf covers! Our panel assesses the practicalities of sf costumes (with illustrations) and the way artists draw the female physique.
*Dee Parker, Sue Mason, Ken MacLeod, Judi Hodgkin*

*Sat, 1700-1800, Argyll 2*
**Twelve Monkeys and a Chicken**
Global epidenics are a perennial theme in SF, and thanks to Bird Flu the topic is more relevant than ever. How would we really cope with a pandemic?
*Jon Courtenay Grimwood, Mike Gallagher, Liz Williams, Sabine Furlong (M), Sarita Robinson*

*Sat, 1700-1800, Argyll 3*
**"Sword Blades and Poppy Seeds" - Where Does Your Inspiration Come From?**
Amy Lowell felt that your muse always came with a price to pay. What are the wellsprings of inspiration for writers and artists?
*Mike Cobley (M), Jack Deighton, Susanna Clarke, Brian Froud, Tanith Lee*

*Sat, 1800-1900, Argyll 1*
**Who +1 - is British TV SF undergoing a renaissance?**
One year after many of us watched the first episode of the new Dr. Who, a number of other new shows have appeared. But are Hyperdrive, Life on Mars and Eleventh Hour signs of a new beginning, or are they just attempts to cash in?
*Peter Harrow, Judith Proctor, Margaret Austin (M), Paul Cornell*

*Sat, 1800-1900, Argyll 2*
**"All Quest Fantasies are basically Pilgrim's Progress rewritten"**
Is this true? If so, is there anything that can be done about it?
*Farah Mendlesohn (M), Deborah Miller, John Clute, Paul Barnett, Juliet McKenna*

*Sat, 1800-1900, Argyll 3*
**Writing the Taboo**
Sf and fantasy have long pushed the boundaries of what is considered acceptable. What taboos remain? Can they - or even should they - be tackled?
*Jetse de Vries, Chris Beckett (M), Amanda Hemingway, Tanya Brown*

*Sat, 1900-2000, Argyll 1*
***Dr Who***
The new season of *Dr Who* airs tonight; subject to technical feasibility, we hope to show it.

*Sat, 2000-2100, Argyll 1*
**Film: *The Call of Cthulhu***
The HP Lovecraft Historical Society's acclaimed silent black-and-white version of Lovecraft's classic tale.

*Sat, 2000-2100, Argyll 2*
**Defining Sentience**
How will we recognise self-awareness? Will it recognise us? And when does 'which is the real me' stop being a meaningful question?
*Justina Robson, Richard Morgan, Andrew Wilson (M), Chris Beckett, Colin Gavaghan*

*Sat, 2000-2100, Argyll 3*
**It's Not Easy Being Green**
Is the tech v environmental divide become more complex (e.g pro-nuke environmentalists)?
*Renee Sieber (M), Liz Williams, Paul Cornell, Peter Harrow*

*Sat, 2100-2130, Argyll 1*
**Award Ceremony**
The BSFA and other Awards, hosted by John Jarrold.

*Sat, 2130-2300, Argyll 1*
**TAFF Party and Interaction Thank-You**
A special fund-raising event for the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund, supported by Interaction, the 2005 Worldcon.
*James Bacon, Bridget Bradshaw, Sparks, 1/2r*

*Sat, 2130-2300, Argyll 2*
**Raagnagrok**
Describing themselves as "electric sitar and synth dronemusik", Raagnagrok will be playing a set at Concussion.

*Sat, 2130-2300, Argyll 3*
**The Eastercon Quiz**
Saturday Night Quiz
*Simon Bradshaw (QM), Juliet McKenna, Chaz Brenchley, Charlie Stross*

*Sat, 2200-2300, Mezzanine*
**Blake's Seven Wobblevision**
Help recreate a classic B7 episode! Meet up at 10pm outside Video Programme (Orkney).
*Steve Rogerson*

| SUNDAY | 0900-1000 | 1000-1100 | 1100-1200 | 1200-1300 | 1300-1400 | 1400-1530 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Argyll 1 | | The March of the MMORPG | BID SESSION | Eastercon Forum | Is 2001 an Odyssey or an Argonautica? | Guest of Honour<br><br>Justina Robson |
| Argyll 2 | | Up Close and Personal | "Why can't they just write it so people can understand?" | Special Guest<br><br>Dee Parker | Shuttle at 25 | |
| Argyll 3 | | Small Presses and Trade Publishers | The Other Kind of Fantastic | Battlestar Galactica: Civics 101 In Space? | Harrison, Harrison and Clute | |
| Boardroom | | Archers Listen-In and Panel | | Philosophy and SF | Flash Fiction Workshop 2 | |
| Notes | | | Art Auction Setup | Art Auction (Art Show)<br><br>Readings (Orkney)<br>Kaffeeklatsches | | Beyond Cyberdrome<br><br>(outside) |

| SUNDAY | 1530-1700 | 1700-1800 | 1800-1900 | 1900-2000 | 2000-2130 | 2130-2300 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Argyll 1 | Guest of Honour | Won't Get Fooled Again | Digging up the Past in the Future | Masquerade Rehearsal | Masquerade | Guest of Honour |
| Argyll 2 | Brian Froud | Model Making and SFX | How Children's SF influences future reading | | | Ian Sorensen |
| Argyll 3 | | The Writer-Critic | Writing Other Cultures | Staging the Fantastic | Mad Bio-Medical Tales | Edinburgh Writers' Bloc |
| Boardroom | Scholarship in the fan community | Readings | FILK | FILK | FILK | |
| Notes | Beyond Cyberdrome (outside) | Readings (Orkney) | | | | |

*Sun, 1000-1100, Argyll 1*
**The March of the MMORPG**
Massively Multiplayer Online RPGs have millions of participants, thriving online cultures and economies the size of small countries. What is life in cyberspace like?
*Liz Batty (M), Max, Ian Snell, Cati Monti*

*Sun, 1000-1100, Argyll 2*
**Up Close and Personal**
The Fantastic in the High Street: sf and fantasy about everyday life.
*Justina Robson, Liz Hand, Tanith Lee, Brian Froud*

*Sun, 1000-1100, Argyll 3*
**Small Presses and Trade Publishers**
The issues, challenges, and opportunities facing small publishers today.
*Marc Gascoigne, Chris Teague, John Berlyne (M), Andrew Hook*

*Sun, 1000-1200, Boardroom*
**Archers Listen-In and Panel**
Meet up to listen to the Archers Sunday Omnibus, then watch our panel dissect the burning issues of Ambridge.
*Tony Keen, Flick, Fran Dowd*

*Sun, 1100-1200, Argyll 1*
**Eastercon Bid Session**
Your chance to vote on the bids to run the 2007 and 2008 Eastercons. There will be bids for both years being presented as there was no bid to run 2007 last year.

*Sun, 1100-1200, Argyll 2*
**"Why can't they just write it so people can understand?"**
What makes writing inaccessible? Are challenging ideas enough to make a challenging work of fiction, or must they be matched by complex language and structures?
*Elizabeth Bear, Hal Duncan, Niall Harrison (M), John Clute, Maureen Kincaid Speller*

*Sun, 1100-1200, Argyll 3*
**The Other Kind of Fantastic**
Mainstream fiction is more ambitious and interesting than it's been in years--from Ali Smith to Kevin Brockmeier and all points in between.
*Paul Kincaid, Tanya Brown, Paul Barnett (M)*

*Sun, 1200-1300, Argyll 1*
**Eastercon Forum**
Fran Dowd leads a discussion of The Pressing Questions of Our Time

*Sun, 1200-1300, Argyll 2*
**Special Guest - Dee Parker**
'Contour Fashion' lecturer Dee Parker on "Silhouettes of the Past and the Future"

*Sun, 1200-1300, Argyll 3*
***Battlestar Galactica*: Civics 101 In Space?**
With its focus on political, legal and ethical issues, is the new *Battlestar Galactica* SF's answer to *The West Wing*?

*Simon Bradshaw (M), Mattia Valente, Morgan Gallagher, Peter Harrow, Lynn Whittaker*

*Sun, 1200-1300, Boardroom*
**Philosophy and SF**
SF often has pretensions to philosophical thought, but how rigourous is it really?
*Justina Robson, Paul Cornell (M), Liz Williams*

*Sun, 1200-1400, Island/Staffa*
**Art Auction**

*Sun, 1300-1400, Argyll 1*
**Is 2001 an Odyssey or an Argonautica?**
Tony Keen analyses the Clarke/Kubrick film in the context of Greek myth.

*Sun, 1300-1400, Argyll 2*
**Shuttle at 25**
It's exactly 25 years since the first flight of the Space Shuttle. What impact did it (and its failures) have on sf and real-world space exploration?
*Simon Bradshaw (M), Mat Irvine, Stephen Baxter, Dave Clements*

*Sun, 1300-1400, Argyll 3*
**Harrison, Harrison and Clute**
No, not the SF Writers' legal advisers! Niall Harrison, Mike Harrison and John Clute in conversation.

*Sun, 1300-1400, Boardroom*
**Flash Fiction Workshop 2**
Session 2: Feedback and Discussion. Please bring your work from the first session.
*Kate Bodley*

*Sun, 1400-1530, Argyll 12*
**Guest of Honour - Justina Robson**
Justina Robson interviewed by Jon Courtenay Grimwood

*Sun, 1400-1700, Outside*
**Beyond Cyberdrome - Pirates!**
SMS and James present the latest incarnation of Beyond Cyberdrome: Pirates! Note that owing to the nature of this year's challenge, it will be taking place outside.

*Sun, 1530-1700, Argyll 12*
**Guest of Honour - Brian Froud**

*Sun, 1530-1700, Boardroom*
**Scholarship in the Fan Community**
What is good scholarship in the context of non-professional criticism?
*Maureen Kincaid Speller (M), Peter Weston, Tony Keen*

*Sun, 1530-1700, Orkney*
**BSFA Award shorts book group**
Niall Harrison leads a discussion of the Short Story candidates for the BSFA Award.

*Sun, 1700-1800, Argyll 1*
**Won't Get Fooled Again**
"Why don't we just completely trash the whole tired sf genre and try to take the discourse somewhere genuinely new?"
*John Berlyne, Justina Robson (M), Graham Sleight, Hal Duncan*

*Sun, 1700-1800, Argyll 2*
**Model Making and SFX**
How is new technology revolutionising the way both professional and amateur modellers can work?
*Mat Irvine, Chris Harris, Robert Day*

*Sun, 1700-1800, Argyll 3*
**The Writer-Critic**
Why does sf have so many good critics who are active fiction writers?
*John Clute, Jo Fletcher, Liz Hand, Colin Greenland*

*Sun, 1800-1900, Argyll 1*
**Digging up the Past in the Future**
What would researchers make of the remains of a typical fantasy or sf culture? Our panel examine some artefacts…
*Barbara, Edward James (M), Stephen Baxter, Tony Ballantyne, Justina Robson*

*Sun, 1800-1900, Argyll 2*
**How Children's SF influences future reading**
What is big in SF for young adults these days? What sort of sf readers will come out of reading it?
*Rhiannon Lassiter, Andy Sawyer (M), Liz Wein, Amanda Hemingway*

*Sun, 1800-1900, Argyll 3*
**Writing Other Cultures**
Writers frequently want to explore or present unfamiliar cultures, be they human or alien. Can you do this convincingly, and if so how?
*Jon Courtenay Grimwood, Johanna Sinisalo, Geoff Ryman, Liz Williams (M)*

*Sun, 1900-2000, Argyll 12*
**Masquerade Rehearsal**

*Sun, 1900-2000, Argyll 3*
**Staging the Fantastic**
What are the challenges of depicting the fantastic on stage and screen?
*Brian Froud, Judi Hodgkin (M), Mat Irvine, Andrew Wilson*

*Sun, 1900-2000, Mezzanine*
**Parietal Games' launch**
The Science Fiction Foundation and Concussion present the official launch of the SFF's collection of critical writing by and on Guest of Honour M John Harrison.

*Sun, 2000-2130, Argyll 12*
**Masquerade**

*Sun, 2000-2130, Argyll 3*
**Mad Bio-Medical Tales**
Tall Technical Tales goes soft and squishy! The popular panel on scientific urban myth and laboratory legends takes a break from rocket science and looks at folklore of medicine and biology.
*Dave Clements, Mattia Valente, Lucy Smithers, Colin Gavaghan*

*Sun, 2130-2300, Argyll 12*
**Guest of Honour - Ian Sorensen**
Our Fan Guest of Honour goes on trial: Ian Sorensen, This Is Your Life (Sentence)!

*Sun, 2130-2300, Argyll 3*
**Edinburgh Writers' Bloc**
Gavin Inglis leads readings by the Edinburgh SF Writers' group.

| MONDAY | 0900-1000 | 1000-1100 | 1100-1200 | 1200-1300 | 1300-1400 | 1400-1530 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Argyll 1 | | Feedback Session | Special Guest Mat Irvine | Victim or Survivor? | Does anyone watch broadcast TV any more? | Does your towel know where you are? |
| Argyll 2 | | From Game to Book or Book to Game | Equal Pay? Now We're Talking Fantasy | V for Vendetta: Comics and Politics | How to write the truly terrifying | Promoting Yourself |
| Argyll 3 | | Mining the Heart | It's Not Just D&D Any More | Return of the Robinsonade | Sword Fighting Demo | |
| Boardroom | Flash Fiction Workshop 3 | Communal Criticism | Rise of the comic artist as Artist | The Golden BSFA | | |
| Notes | | | | | Kaffeeklatsches | |

| MONDAY | 1530-1700 | 1700-1900 | 1900-2300 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Argyll 1 | 1600: Closing Ceremony | 'Lucas Back in Anger' | Dead Dog Party | | |
| Boardroom | | FILK | FILK | FILK | FILK |

*Mon, 0900-1000, Boardroom*
**Flash Fiction Workshop 3**
Sessoion 3: Feedback, continued. Please bring your work from Session 1, as well as any amendments you may be considering as a result of the feedback you've received.
*Kate Bodley*

*Mon, 1000-1100, Argyll 1*
**Feedback Session**
Your chance to provide feedback on the convention to the current and future Eastercon committees.

*Mon, 1000-1100, Argyll 2*
**From Book to Game or Game to Book**
How do you turn a role-playing game into a setting for fiction? What does it take to turn a book or comic into a role-playing game, and what does the process tell us about the original writer?
*Stephen Baxter (M), Marc Gascoigne, Dan Abnett, Paul Barnett*

*Mon, 1000-1100, Argyll 3*
**Mining the Heart**
M John Harrison in conversation with Liz Hand and Colin Greenland
*M John Harrison (M), Liz Hand, Colin Greenland*

*Mon, 1000-1100, Boardroom*
**Communal Criticism**
Is blogging bringing reviewers out of their ivory towers?
*Niall Harrison, Maureen Kincaid Speller*

*Mon, 1100-1200, Argyll 1*
**Special Guest - Mat Irvine**
Mat Irvine's illustrated talk on "Space - As It Should Have Been".

*Mon, 1100-1200, Argyll 2*
**Equal Pay? Now We're Talking Fantasy**
"The gender pay gap is bigger in Britain than anywhere else in Europe." Does it matter? How will it affect our future?
*Caroline Mullan, Johanna Sinisalo, Neil Williamson, Claire Brialey*

*Mon, 1100-1200, Argyll 3*
**It's Not Just D&D Any More**
Role-Playing Gaming has come a long way since the early days of D&D. What does it offer now and what do modern gamers get out of it?
*John Dallman, Bridget Bradshaw (M), Phil Nanson, Marcus Rowland*

*Mon, 1100-1200, Boardroom*
**Rise of the comic artist as Artist**
In the world of comics, has the artist's style become as big a selling point as the writer's name?
*James Bacon, John Richards*

*Mon, 1200-1300, Argyll 1*
**Victim or Survivor? Human Responses to Alien Invasion**
Psychology lecturer Dr Sarita Robinson explores the factors affecting our responses to disaster.

*Mon, 1200-1300, Argyll 2*
***V for Vendetta*: Comics and Politics**
The release of the film of *V for Vendetta* is highlighting the graphic novel as a serious political tract. How has the genre developed in the last 20 years?
*Michael Abbott, Lilian Edwards (M), Cati Monti, Hannu Rajaniemi*

*Mon, 1200-1300, Argyll 3*
**Return of the Robinsonade**
*Lost*, *Battlestar Galactica*, *1632* - the small community stranded and trying to survive is a concept that seems to be making a comeback. But is an excuse for formulaic plots, info-dumping and libertarian fantasy?
*Paul Barnett, Mattia Valente (M), Chris O'Shea, Mike Cobley*

*Mon, 1200-1300, Boardroom*
**The Golden BSFA**
How should the BSFA mark its 50th anniversary?
*Pat McMurray*

*Mon, 1300-1400, Argyll 1*
**Does Anyone Watch Broadcast TV Any More?**
Between downloading episodes and buying the DVD compilation, does anyone actually watch the original broadcast of SF series any more? How might this change the culture of mutual appreciation of a show?
*Niall Harrison, Morgan Gallagher (M), Judith Proctor, Paul Cockburn, John Toon*

*Mon, 1300-1400, Argyll 2*
**How to write the truly terrifying.**
How do you craft words to make the blood freeze? What elements go into good horror to make it more than just scary or gruesome?
*Lisa Tuttle (M), Freda Warrington, Tanith Lee, Heather Turnbull*

*Mon, 1300-1530, Argyll 3*
**Swordfighting Demo (subject to confirmation)**
Learn about swordfighting, with a chance to try swordplay in a safe and supervised environment.

*Mon, 1400-1530, Argyll 1*
**Does your towel know where you are?**
RFID chips to track our shopping, and wireless video cameras in every mobile phone: what happens when universal communication becomes ubiquitous surveillance?
*Dave Clements, Lilian Edwards, Doug Spencer (M), Mike Scott*

*Mon, 1400-1530, Argyll 2*
**Promoting Yourself**
Everyone has a writer inside them. Our panel explore how to help stage a breakout, and where to go next.
*Mark Robson, Charlie Stross, Heather Turnbull, Dave Hutchinson*

*Mon, 1600-1630, Argyll 123*
**Closing Ceremony**

*Mon, 1700-1900, Argyll 1*
***Lucas Back in Anger***
A video of Guest of Honour Ian Sorensen's Hugo-nominated play from the last Worldcon.

*Mon, 1900-2300, Argyll 1*
**Dead Dog Party**

## Signing Session

The following authors intend to take part in the signing session on Friday evening:

Dan Abnett, Paul Barnett, Stephen Baxter, Chaz Brenchley, Paul Cornell, Jack Deighton, Jon Courtenay Grimwood, Elizabeth Hand, Amanda Hemingway, Ken MacLeod, Deborah Miller, Justina Robson, Mark Robson, Johanna Sinisalo, Charlie Stross and Freda Warrington.

## Readings

The following Readings are scheduled:

Fri, 1700-1800, Boardroom: Jon Courtenay Grimwood, M John Harrison.

Sat, 1300-1400, Orkney: Frances Hardinge, Ken MacLeod, Liz Williams.

Sat, 1700-1800, Orkney: Ian McDonald, Elizabeth Wein, Liz Hand.

Sat, 1700-1800, Boardroom: Dan Abnett, Amanda Hemingway, Gavin Inglis.

Sun, 1300-1400, Orkney: Justina Robson, Liz Sourbut, Lisa Tuttle.

Sun, 1700-1800, Orkney: Stephen Baxter, Rhiannon Lassiter, Jack Deighton.

Sun, 1700-1800, Boardroom: Freda Warrington, Chaz Brenchley, Mark Robson.

## Kaffeeklatsches

We plan to run kaffeeklatsches (informal group chats over coffee) as below; please see at-convention updates for details of venue and sign-up sheets..

Fri, 1700-1800: Charlie Stross, John Clute, Dan Abnett.

Sat, 1300-1400: Elizabeth Wein, Justina Robson, Paul Cornell, Liz Hand.

Sat, 1700-1800: Mark Robson, Liz Sourbut, Freda Warrington.

Sun, 1300-1400: Liz Williams, Johanna Sinisalo, Jon Courtenay Grimwood, Ian McDonald.

Mon, 1300-1400: Ken MacLeod, Chaz Brenchley, Jack Deighton.

## Craft Workshops

All craft workshops will run in Staffa, next to the Art Show

*Sat, 1030-1200: Card-making workshop with Kate and Tanya.*
Learn to make simple, impressive special occasion cards. Materials supplied (£1 donation requested), but please bring your own scissors if possible.

*Sat, 1200-1400: Silver Clay with Judi Hodgkin.*
Silver out of clay? Surely that's in the realms of Science Fiction! Now you can make 99.99% pure silver jewellery without needing a degree in jewellery-making or expensive equipment. This workshop is only open to adults and a small charge of £5 per person will be asked for to cover materials, but you'll leave with a piece of jewellery in 99.99% pure silver! Sign up at registration - 20 places only.

*Sat, 1400-1530: Pressed Faery Workshop with Judi Hodgkin and Brian Froud.*
If you like Lady Cottington's book of Pressed Faeries, come along to this workshop and build your own. All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

*Sat, 1530-1700: Pattern Cutting Workshop with Judi Hodgkin and Dee Parker.*
When it comes down to it, a good costume relies on a good pattern. Dee will show you how to turn a drawing into a pattern.

*Sun, 1000-1100: Beading with Giulia de Cesare.*
An introduction to beadwork.

*Sun, 1400-1530: Preserve your Eastercon Memories with Judi Hodgkin.*
Come along and find out what Scrapbooking is. Use it as a means for preserving your Eastercon memories. Do you have boxes of Masquerade photos gathering dust? Do you have photos of Eastercon events that you want to remember? Open to everyone over 8 years of age. Under 12s must be accompanied by an adult.

**Meet Mat Irvine**
We also plan to have one or two sessions where **Mat Irvine** will talk through the background and construction of some of the models he will be bringing along, including well-known props from *Blake's Seven* and *Doctor Who*. See programme updates for more details of this.

## Glossary: A list of words, followed by descriptions

The subculture of fandom has been around for some eighty years, and it has developed a language which can seem impenetrable to the new fan.
By popular demand, Concussion presents a glossary to a few common terms.
(Thanks to various sources, including Interaction).

**Ansible**: ubiquitous, useful and humorous monthly SF newsletter.
**APA**: Amateur Press Association. A method of communal publishing.
**BNF**: Big Name Fan.
**Con**: Convention. Usually run by volunteers.
**Concom**: Convention committee. Volunteers, who do this in their holidays.
**Crottled Greeps**: fictional fannish foodstuff.
**DCM**: Duty Convention Manager, the top-level troubleshooter. Typical usage: "There are snakes in the crèche! Call the DCM!"
**Fan**: You. Me. Us.
**Fannish**: Describes someone who has a large measure of interest in the social activities of SF fans as well as in science fiction itself.
**Fanzine**: Amateur magazine published by a science fiction fan.
**Fen**: plural of Fan. (Also fans)
**FIAWOL**: Fandom Is A Way Of Life.
**Gafiate**: From GAFIA – Get Away From It All. To leave fandom.
**GoH**: Guest of Honour at a convention. Only used in print, not in speech.
**Gopher**: General volunteer. You go-for this, and go-for that.
**Groat**: Gopher Reward Token. The convention's internal "currency", given to gophers in return for working shifts, exchangeable for food and drink and goods in the con areas.
**Hugos**: Prestigious awards of the World SF Convention, in the form of shiny rockets. Did we mention our GoH Ian Sorensen is nominated for one?
**Mundane**: Non-fan. Occasionally pejorative.
**Ops**: Operations. Troubleshooters who keep the convention running smoothly. Often seen with walkie-talkies. Sometimes referred to as "Oops".
**Pub Your Ish**: Publish Your Issue (of a fanzine).
**Sercon**: Given over mainly to serious and intellectual discussion and criticism of science fiction. An adjective condensed from "serious and constructive".
**SMOF**: Secret Master of Fandom. One experienced in running conventions. Can also be used as a verb: smoffing.
**Trufan**: True Fan.
**Usual, the**: most fanzines are available for "the Usual": letter of comment, another fanzine in trade, or contribution of written material or artwork – not just cash.

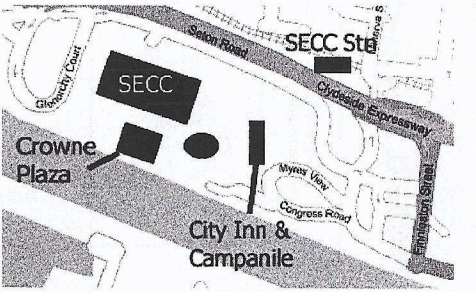
## Notes

## Inside & Outside

**Maps**

A *Tourist Map of Glasgow* should have been included with your membership pack; kindly provided by the Glasgow City Marketing Bureau.

The Crowne Plaza is 1 mile from Central Glasgow; a 15 minute walk.

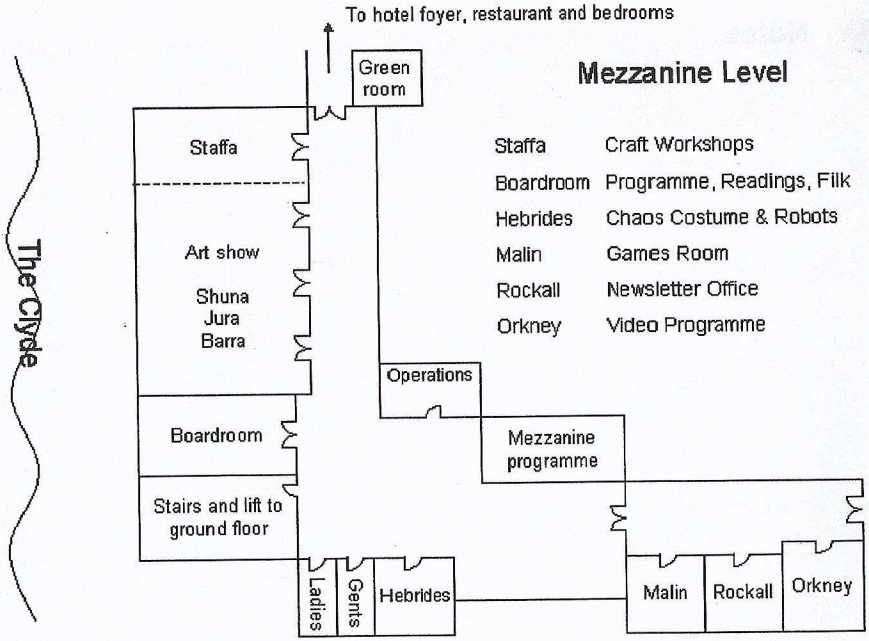


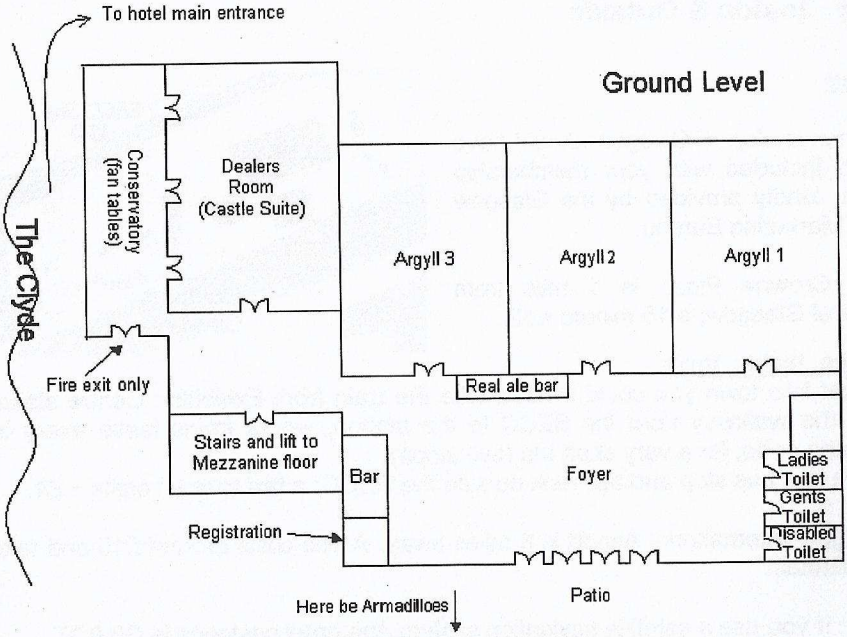

**Buses, trains, taxis**

To get into town you could instead take the train from Exhibition Centre station; take the walkway from the SECC to the station, where trains leave every ten minutes or so, for a very short trip (two stops).
There is a bus stop and taxi rank outside the SECC; a taxi to town costs ~ £4.

Glasgow International Airport is 8 miles away. A taxi costs around £15 and takes 20 minutes.

**GPS**: If you use a satellite navigation system, the hotel postcode is G3 8QT.


To hotel foyer, restaurant and bedrooms
Green room
Mezzanine Level
Staffa
Craft Workshops
Boardroom
Programme, Readings, Filk
Hebrides
Chaos Costume & Robots
Malin
Games Room
Rockall
Newsletter Office
Orkney
Video Programme
The Clyde
Staffa
Art show
Shuna
Jura
Barra
Operations
Boardroom
Mezzanine programme
Stairs and lift to ground floor
Ladies
Gents
Hebrides
Malin
Rockall
Orkney


To hotel main entrance
Ground Level
The Clyde
Conservatory (fan tables)
Dealers Room (Castle Suite)
Argyll 3
Argyll 2
Argyll 1
Fire exit only
Real ale bar
Stairs and lift to Mezzanine floor
Bar
Foyer
Ladies Toilet
Gents Toilet
Disabled Toilet
Registration
Patio
Here be Armadilloes